THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) There is no language wise distribtuion of programme staff in the Sahitya Akademi or its Regional Offices. The Sahitya Akademi has a Language Advisory Board for each of the twenty-two ianguages recognized by them. Major activities of the Sahitya Akademi like Translation, Publication, Seminar, other Literary Programmes etc., are based on the recommendations of the respective Language Advisory Boards. The staff in the Sahitya Akademi and the Regional Offices provide administrative support to the Language Advisory Boards.

Levy of One Time Entry Fee for Hampi Monuments

1732. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten dollars and Rupees ten is being charged for each monument as entrance fee at Hampi for foreign and domestic tourist; and

(b) if so, whether Government will take steps to levy one time entrance fee for visit to entire Hampi monuments to promote tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Entry fee of Rs. 10/- for Indian citizens and $ 10 for others is charged separately at the Vithala Temple complex and the Lotus Mahal complex at Hampi. No entry fee is charged for children below the age of fifteen.

(b) There is no proposal to change the existing arrangement.

Development of Tourism in Bihar

†1733. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the plans submitted by the State Government of Bihar to the Central Government for its approval and assistance for the development of tourism sector in Bihar during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(b) the latest status of the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Financial assistance is provided to State Governments/U.T. Administrations for tourism projects prioritised every year in consultation

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.